

# DID YOU KNOW?

**Did you know that the City of Brighton has a Stormwater Program?** The primary goal of the City of Brighton Stormwater Program is to reduce the amount of pollutants entering our local streams, lakes and rivers. Pollutants, such as fertilizers, pesticides, sediment, trash and spilled chemicals may be transported by stormwater runoff from residential, commercial and industrial areas into the storm sewer system discharging directly into our local waterways, causing water pollution. Unlike the wastewater in our sewer system, stormwater is not treated before entering our streams, rivers, and lakes.

**So how does this pollution from stormwater runoff occur?** Nutrient loading, when excessive amounts of nutrients (mainly Nitrogen and Phosphorus) enter our waterways, is the biggest culprit for pollution. Nitrogen and Phosphorus naturally exist in our environment, but also tend to excessively end up in our stream, rivers and lakes. This type of pollution can cause problems for wildlife, algae blooms, water quality, and flooding during storms. The most common sources of this type of pollution in our community are leaf litter (plant leaf debris), fertilizer (lawn and garden), and pet waste.

**What can I do to help prevent nutrient loading in Brighton?** Easy, mindful behavioral practices can go a long way to reducing the pollution that reaches our waterways. Check out the handy pollution prevention chart below:



STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION DO'S & DON'TS		
WHAT IS THE POLLUTION SOURCE?	DON'T	DO
<b>Fertilizer:</b> Improper application of fertilizer leads to runoff into storm drainage system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply fertilizer to your lawn when grass is not actively growing, or when ground is frozen.</li> <li>• Apply fertilizer to paved surfaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read the fertilizer bag labels and apply according to label directions.</li> <li>• Sweep up any excess or spilled fertilizer and dispose of properly.</li> </ul>
<b>Pet Waste:</b> During rain events, pet waste washes off into storm drainage system, ending up in local waterways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Let your pet poop or pee in or near waterways.</li> <li>• Dispose of pet waste in the storm drain or the street.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always pick up after your pet, even in your yard.</li> <li>• Spread the word, help your neighbor!</li> <li>• Carry extra bags to share on your walks or request/create pet waste bag holders in your local parks.</li> </ul>
<b>Leaf Litter:</b> Gathering of leaves, grass clippings, and other yard debris in roadways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blow, rake, or sweep yard debris into the roadways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bag your yard debris and dispose of properly.</li> <li>• Compost your yard waste for gardens and flower beds.</li> </ul>

For more information about Brighton's stormwater systems, please call us at 303-655-2136

